DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 419 606 PS 026 514

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TITLE Measuring Outcomes in Children's Services.
INSTITUTION Manisses Communications Group, Inc., Providence, RI.
ISBN ISBN-1-884937-49-7
PUB DATE 1998-00-00
NOTE 250p.
AVAILABLE FROM Manisses Customer Service Dept., 208 Governor Street, Providence, RI 02906; toll-free phone: 800-333-7771, phone: 401-831-6020; fax: 401-861-6370; World Wide Web: www.manisses.com ($75).
PUB TYPE Guides - Non-Classroom (055)
EDRS PRICE Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS Annotated Bibliographies; Attention Deficit Disorders; Autism; Behavior Disorders; Child Abuse; Child Health; Child Neglect; Child Welfare; *Children; Delinquency; Depression (Psychology); Eating Disorders; Emotional Disturbances; *Evaluation Methods; Juvenile Justice; Measurement Techniques; Mental Disorders; Mental Health; *Program Evaluation; Quality Control; Runaways; Sexuality; Special Education; Substance Abuse; Suicide; Truancy; Welfare Services
IDENTIFIERS Child Protection; Outcome Oriented Evaluation; Risk Taking Behavior

ABSTRACT

Outcomes evaluation can provide program managers and clinical directors in child welfare, juvenile justice, child mental health, and child protective services the necessary tools for program quality assurance and accountability. This guide describes the outcomes evaluation process and provides a summary of articles and reports detailing current findings and tools used in outcomes evaluation. Following the initial chapter on planning an outcomes system and the importance of cultural competence for designing evaluations, the guide is organized according to disorders or problem classification: (1) anxiety disorders; (2) attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, including behavioral interventions and pharmacotherapy; (3) autism; (4) depression and suicide, focusing on preventing depression, treatment strategies, and suicide prevention; (5) eating disorders; (6) conduct disorders; (7) miscellaneous disorders, including severe emotional disturbance; (8) risky behaviors, including running away, truancy, and risky sexual behavior; (9) substance abuse; (10) juvenile delinquency; and (11) child abuse and neglect. Two types of articles are included: digests of journal articles, and field reports from programs and consultants working on outcomes evaluation. Each article contains the full citation and editor's notes pointing out strengths and weaknesses of the approaches used in the outcomes evaluation studies. (KB)

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